



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Asotin County Library and Asotin County Broadband Action Team Collaborate
to Test Internet Speeds in Parkway Neighborhood**

Clarkston, WA – The Asotin County Library and Asotin County Broadband Action Team (BAT) are working together to meet a May 14 deadline for Washington’s Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Challenge Process. This challenge aims to dispute the level of internet service reported on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) National Broadband Map.

The Asotin County Library is looking to connect with residents from the Parkway School service area to conduct internet speed tests in the evening hours, from a home computer, when internet use demand is high.

"We are actively seeking residents in this service area to test their internet speeds, particularly if they are paying for 100/20 bps or more, and yet find their internet runs slowly", stated Jennifer Ashby, Asotin County Library Director. "The FCC broadband map shows this area is adequately served, but it's our belief that the infrastructure for higher speeds is inadequate and residents are not getting full service. Our goal is to enhance internet speeds and connectivity with available federal funding and ultimately help create a digital environment that supports residents and businesses in this area."

Residents who are willing to conduct speed tests can reach Erin Kolb, adult services librarian, at 509-758-5454 or adultservices@aclib.org to schedule a speed test from their home computer with help from Library staff.

For more information about this short-term project visit www.asotincountylibrary.org/news

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About Asotin County Library The Asotin County Rural Library District was created by and belongs to the people it serves. The Library exists to advance intellectual curiosity, promote lifelong learning, provide recreational materials, and enrich environments in which minds can grow. It supports an active, informed community by providing all people with access to materials in various formats representing diverse points of view.

About Asotin County Broadband Action Team The Asotin County Broadband Action Team was formed in order to identify areas of our communities impacted by the digital divide and to address the factors causing that divide. We seek to ensure access to affordable, high-speed internet for all Asotin County residents and businesses, regardless of location and ability to pay. Building the infrastructure to enable this is a major focus of the BAT. Once infrastructure is in place, Asotin County will be closer to achieving digital equity for all residents. Asotin County BAT members work together to address all aspects of digital inclusion – affordable broadband, devices, and skills.